

claims to "The" It may be noted that Yoshikawa, or record herein, uses the same phrasing as that objected to. The other patents of record use the telegraphic English introduction, omitting any article before the noun. Upon quick review of another application folder in the undersigned attorney's office, selected at random, this attorney found US 5,047,923 and 4,903,258 (German origin patents), which use "The" for the dependent claims. US 5,301,303 is U.S. origin (attorneys McGlew & Tuttle) and uses "A ... system" for all dependent claims. US 5,434,863 (Japanese origin) uses "An ... apparatus" for all dependent claims. Accordingly, this sampling suggests that the undersigned attorney, who is fluent only in American English for well over 60 years, is not far wrong in choosing this form of claim introduction. The reason for the choice is that "A ... widget" sounds, to the American ear, broader than "The ... widget" because "A" suggests that more than one will satisfy the following definition.

Minor errors

Claim 29 has been amended to insert the units of measure, as shown, e.g., in Fig. 5.

Claim 44 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

P' is the highest ...

Claims 24 and 42 recite that P' is the highest integer whose value is less than P. This phrasing has a meaning identical to "P' is the next lower integer following P". Applicant concedes

that is would be more normal language use to say, "P' is the next lower integer below P" and therefore requests amendment of the specification at this page. It will be clear to all of ordinary skill that, if P is not an integer and it is to be approximated by a succession of integer values either P' or P'+1, then P' and P'+1 must be the integers whose value is immediately below (less than) P and immediately above (greater than) P.

Claim 43

Claim 43 is amended to make clear that the converter means is a further converter such as that described at lines 25-28 of page 22 which performs de-interleaving. Such devices are well known from the recording arts, and provide a separate conversion from that involved in de-quantizing.

Enabling Disclosure

The system described summarily at lines 21-28 on page 9 refers to the receiver at line 27, and the decoder at line 28. At line 26 of page 14 through line 4 of page 15 a brief description of the use of the memory in the receiver is given. However, the receiver is described at greater length with respect to Fig. 12, at line 7 of page 18 through line 20 of page 21.

Representative claim 24 includes:

an input,
a converting means, and
an output supplying the replica.

The encoded signal is applied to the receiver through a terminal 10 (page 18, lines 16-18). Clearly this is an input.

A unit 19 detects the sync words which are in the first 16 bits of each frame. Distinguishing between a P' packet frame and a P' + 1 packet frame is discussed at lines 23-28 of page 18. The switch 15 permits storage of system information (e.g., how many packets in one frame) in memory 18a (lines 3-6 of page 19). Allocation information for the second portion of the frame is then stored in the memory 18b (lines 9-11 of page 19). The switch 11, memory 12 and multiplier 17 provide scale factor correction is scale factors are transmitted (lines 20-23 of page 19). This is part of the converting means.

The content of the third portion of the frame is applied, after scale factor correction if required, to a synthesis or reconstruction filter 21 to reconstruct the wideband signal, with the samples being applied in an order determined from the allocation memory (lines 23-29 of page 19). If pre-emphasis was used, de-emphasis is provided by the unit 23. Clearly this completes the converting, and the de-emphasis unit output is the decoder output.

Details of the control information flow are found also at line 6 of page 20 through line 2 of page 21.

Further, for the benefit of those having less knowledge than those of ordinary skill, the general construction of receivers, applicable herein, is noted as being known from the Thiele et al article cited at lines 25-28 of page 2.

Accordingly applicant submits that the means for converting and outputting are described more than sufficiently to permit one of ordinary skill to make and use the invention.

Double Patenting Rejection

Upon indication of allowable subject matter in the application, applicant plans to file a terminal disclaimer referring to U.S. patent 5,323,396

Conclusion

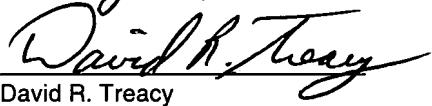
All formal matter objections are corrected. Early favorable action on the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
David R. Treacy, Reg. 25,244
Consulting Patent Attorney
(914) 333-9610

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, DC 20231

on May 27, 1997

David R. Treacy